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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

<u>PATENT</u> Attorney Ref: 16869015200 Client Ref: 349900742US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

n Junuary 18, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Oly Pincoly



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Manabu Kitamura, et al

Application No.: 09/697,088

Filed: October 25, 2000

or: COMPUTER SYSTEM AND

DATA SHARING METHOD BETWEEN COMPUTERS

Examiner:

Unknown

Art Unit:

Unknown

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Manabu Kitamura et Application No.: 09/697,088

Attorney Ref.:16869015200 Client Ref.: 349900742US

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Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

e C Cohull

Robert C. Colwell Reg. No. 27,431

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 Tel: 650-326-2400

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